

AMERICAN STUDIES RESEARCH PAPER

DUE MONDAY, MARCH 23rd

GOALS: To exhibit a sophisticated understanding of an American Studies topic
To demonstrate the ability to write about this topic as an extension of critical thinking

The purpose of this assignment is to research a topic of interest, critically think about issues related to that topic, and craft a well-organized, well-supported written argument as a synthesis of your research.

Learning Targets:

ENGLISH:

1. Students will use a variety of effective transitions to connect ideas and show relationships between ideas.
2. Students will integrate sources effectively into sentences and paragraphs, using correctly formatted MLA citations and works cited page.
3. Students will write clearly and concisely, using a variety of sentence structures to express complex ideas.

HISTORY:

1. Students will formulate a thesis that addresses a historical question utilizing the framework of one of five historical thinking skills: Historical causation and effect, patterns of continuity and change over time, comparison and contrast, turning points in history or historical argumentation.
2. Students will demonstrate an understanding of the historical context of the time period.
3. Students will use a variety of reliable historical resources to support thesis.
4. Students will integrate specific, relevant evidence into a structured argument that supports a conclusion.

REQUIREMENTS:	REGULAR	ACCELERATED	HONORS
Length:	4-6 pages	6-8 pages	8-10 pages
Required sources:	5 solid sources	7 solid sources	9 solid sources

*Students who are in two levels will meet the expectations of the higher-level course. For example, if you are in Honors English and in Accelerated History, you need to meet the Honors level requirement.

**Successful completion of the research paper is required to earn credit in 2nd semester English 11 and American History.

***Papers submitted without proper citation are considered incomplete and will not receive a passing grade.

****Plagiarism will result in a failing grade for both courses. All papers must be submitted to turnitin.com prior to assessment. Nicolet's academic integrity policy will be followed.

IMPORTANT DEADLINES:

Topic selected	Monday February 9th
Research check (all)	Friday, February 20th
Thesis	Friday, February 24th
Outline	Monday, March 2nd
Complete draft	Monday, March 16th (includes in-text citations and Works Cited page)

FINAL PAPER **Monday, March 23rd (turnitin.com must be completed by midnight)**

ASSESSMENT: This assignment will be assessed in both English 11 and American History.

You will receive **a research process grade in History** as part of your 3rd quarter evaluation.

You will receive **formative writing grades in English** as part of your 3rd quarter evaluation.

You will receive **a final (summative) paper grade in both classes** as part of your 4th quarter evaluation.